

## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (currently amended): A method of determining the risk of developing a bone disease characterized by bone loss in a test individual, said method comprises the step of:

examining the expression level of a ~~WNT signaling antagonist~~ the human homologue of Dickkopf-1 (DKK-1) protein in said test individual, wherein increased expression of said ~~antagonist~~ protein compared to that in normal individual indicates that said test individual has the risk of developing bone disease.

Claim 16-17 (canceled)

Claim 18 (currently amended): The method of claim ~~[[17]]~~ 15, wherein said expression level is determined by ~~PCR assays or enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays~~.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The method of claim 15, wherein said test individual has ~~a disease selected from the group consisting of multiple myeloma[[,]] osteoporosis, post-menopausal osteoporosis and malignancy-related bone loss.~~

**Claims 20-38 (canceled)**